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APRIL 1979

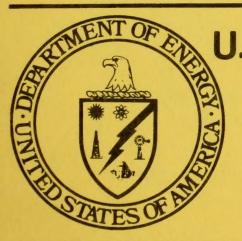
Monthly Performance Report





National Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program

National Solar Data Program



NOTICE _

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MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

LANDURA CORPORATION

APRIL 1979

I. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The Landura Corporation site is a single-family residence in Stayton, Oregon. The house has approximately 1500 square feet of conditioned space. Solar energy is used for space heating the home and preheating domestic hot water (DHW). The solar energy system has an array of flat-plate collectors with a gross area of 318 square feet. However, the roof beneath the collector array is designed as a reflector surface and increases the effective collector area to 1072 square feet. The collector array faces south at an angle of 90 degrees to the horizontal. Water is the transfer medium that delivers solar energy from the collector array to storage and to the space heating and hot water loads. Solar energy is stored aboveground in two 1250-gallon tanks. Supply water is preheated in a heat exchanger coil in storage tank 1 and supplied, on demand, to a conventional 65-gallon DHW tank. When solar energy is insufficient to satisfy the space heating load, a heat exchanger/heat pump and an electrical heating element in the air-handling unit provide auxiliary energy. Similarly, an electrical heating element in the DHW tank provides auxiliary energy for water heating. The system, shown schematically in Figure 1, has four modes of solar operation.

Mode 1 - Collector-to-Storage: This mode is activated when temperature sensors in the collector array obtain a temperature differential 9°F higher than the average temperature in the storage tank. The collector loop pump then turns on and circulates water through the collector array and the storage tanks.

Mode 2 - Storage-to-Space Heating - Solar Only: This mode activates when there is a demand for heating and the temperature in the storage tank is higher than 90°F. Hot water is circulated through the hydronic coil in the air supply duct.

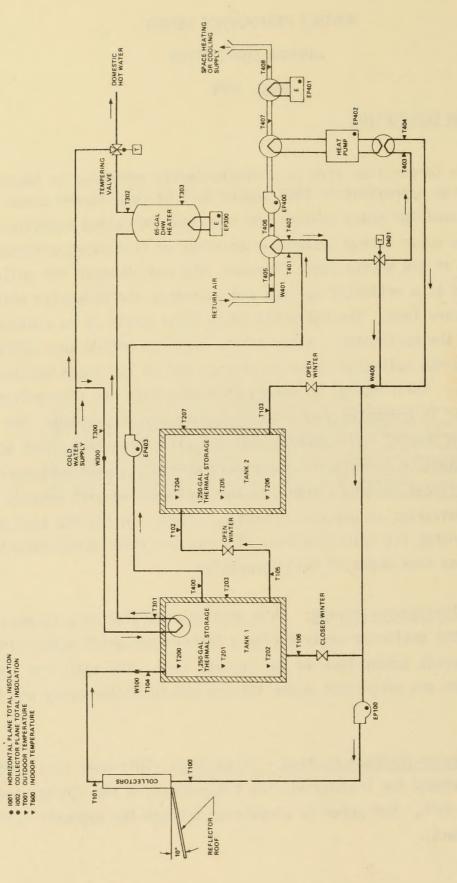


Figure 1. LANDURA CORP. SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM SCHEMATIC

Mode 3 - Storage-to-Space Heating - Solar Plus Heat Pump: This mode activates when there is a demand for space heating and the temperature in the storage tank is higher than 50°F but lower than 90°F. Control valve D401 opens, allowing the hot water to circulate through the heat exchanger and assist the heat pump operation before returning to storage.

<u>Mode 4 - Storage-to-DHW Tank</u>: This mode activates when there is a demand for hot water as measured by flow through W300. Supply water is preheated by passing through the heat exchanger coil in storage tank 1 and then flows to the conventional DHW tank where auxiliary energy will heat it to the demand temperature.

II. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION

The site was unoccupied in April and the solar energy system operated for 22 days during the month. Solar energy satisfied 72 percent of the space heating requirements. The solar energy system incurred an electrical energy expense of 0.10 million Btu.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

During the month, total incident solar energy on the collector array was 18.3 million Btu for a daily average of 569 Btu per square foot. This was below the estimated average daily solar radiation for this geographical area during April of 899 Btu per square foot for a south-facing plane with a tilt of 90 degrees to the horizontal. The average ambient temperature during April was 50°F and was equal to the long-term average for April. The number of heating degree-days for the month (based on a 65°F reference) was 465, as compared with the long-term average of 456.

THERMAL PERFORMANCE

Collector - The total incident solar radiation on the collector array for the month of April was 18.3 million Btu. During the period the collector loop was operating, the total insolation amounted to 7.9 million Btu. The total collected solar energy for the month of April was 2.0 million Btu, resulting in a collector array efficiency of 11 percent, based on total incident insolation. Solar energy delivered from the collector array to storage was 1.3 million Btu. Energy loss during transfer from the collector array to storage was 0.74 million Btu. This loss represented 36 percent of the energy collected. Operating energy required by the collector loop was 0.16 million Btu.

Storage - Solar energy delivered to storage was 1.3 million Btu. There were 0.42 million Btu delivered from storage to the DHW and space heating subsystems. Energy loss from storage was 0.30 million Btu. This loss represented 23 percent of the energy delivered to storage. The storage efficiency was 77 percent: This is calculated as the ratio of the sum of the energy removed from storage and the change in stored energy, to the energy delivered to storage. The average storage temperature for the month was 78°F.

<u>DHW Load</u> - The DHW subsystem consumed 0.31 million Btu of auxiliary electrical energy. The house was unoccupied and there was no hot water usage during the month. Therefore, the hot water load, hot water solar energy, and hot water solar fraction were all zero for the month.

Space Heating Load - The space heating subsystem consumed 0.43 million Btu of solar energy and 0.19 million Btu of auxiliary electrical energy to satisfy a space heating load of 0.60 million Btu. The solar fraction of this load was 72 percent. The space heating subsystem consumed a total of 0.080 million Btu of operating energy, resulting in an electrical energy savings of 0.059 million Btu.

OBSERVATIONS

The reflective surface is required on the roof if the collector array is to operate at design efficiency.

ENERGY SAVINGS

The solar energy system provided a net electrical energy expense of 0.10 million Btu. The DHW subsystem was not used and therefore contributed no energy savings or expense. The space heating subsystem provided an electrical energy savings of 0.059 million Btu.

III. ACTION STATUS

The grantee will investigate the control problems with valve D401 in the near future.

FEATING AND CCCLING DENCNSTRATION PROGRAM SOLAR

MCNTHLY REPORT

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AND CCCLING DEMCNSTRATION PROGRAM SCLAR PEATING

SITE SUMMARY

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